

How Does the Dog and Cat Sterilization Program Work?

- Veterinarians are paid these amounts to reduce the cost of surgeries. They may charge their regular fee, but they are required to give you a written list of any charges above the program payments of:
- **Cat Neuter \$ 35 Dog Neuter \$ 55**
Cat Spay \$ 45 Dog Spay \$ 65
- Veterinarians may perform as many as three (3) procedures per month. More will be allowed if funding increases.
- It is funded by tag sales, the income tax checkoff, private donations, and grants.
- Educational materials promote the program and spay/neuter as a healthy choice.

Who Supports the Program?

- Ass'n. of County Commissioners of GA
- Georgia Animal Control Association
- Georgia Canine Coalition
- Georgia Department of Agriculture
- Georgia Emergency Management Agency
- Georgia Municipal Association
- Georgia Pet Industry Association
- Georgia Sheriffs' Association
- Georgia Veterinary Medical Association
- Humane Association of Georgia
- Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia

Cat Population Pyramid

Possible reproduction of un-sterilized cats:



1st Year: 3 litters = 12 Offspring

2nd Year: 144± Offspring

3rd Year: 1728± Offspring

Contributions to the Dog and Cat Sterilization Program (DCSP) can be sent to:

DCSP

**19 MLK Dr., Room 102
Atlanta, GA 30334**

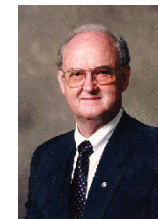
Please contact us for more information:

Georgia Department of Agriculture
Dog and Cat Sterilization Fund
POB 347043
Atlanta GA 30334-7043
800-282-5852 ext. 3667 or 404-656-3667
<http://agr.georgia.gov>

Humane Association of Georgia
www.HumaneAssociationofGeorgia.org 404-827-0603

Georgia Veterinary Medical Association
www.GVMA.net 678-309-98000

3/05/2009



Tommy Irvin,
Georgia Commissioner
of Agriculture says,

"Many Georgians do not neuter their animals, resulting in thousands of dogs and cats being killed every year at taxpayer expense because there are not enough homes" This new program will save their lives without using tax money, a very innovative program for these difficult financial times."

How Can I Help?

- Make a tax-deductible contribution
- Ask your employer to match your contribution
- Help educate others about sterilization
- Urge your veterinarian to participate
- Honor/remember someone with a contribution



Donate with the GA Income Tax Checkoff,
(Line 32 form 500; Line 15 Form 500-EZ)

Program Accountability

- Money from tags, the tax checkoff, grants, and donations go directly to the program.
- More than **1,000** veterinarians have performed more than **43,500** spay/neuter procedures throughout Georgia. People and animals in all **159** Georgia counties have benefited from the program.

Why is a Sterilization Program important?

Dog and cat overpopulation is a tragic problem in all areas of Georgia. Each year thousands of healthy, friendly dogs and cats are killed in Georgia shelters because people allow them to stray and breed. **There are not enough homes for these excess animals.** Sterilization is the solution to dog and cat overpopulation. It reduces:

- numbers of stray dogs and cats
- dogs and cats housed and killed in shelters
- city/county tax burden for animal control
- destruction to property and livestock
- health risks and bad behavior
- vehicular accidents
- wildlife and habitat destruction
- spread of disease like rabies
- injuries to people and other animals

Dog and Cat Sterilization Program:



**Three Plates,
One Purpose,
Saving Lives.**

Program Fast Facts

No tax money goes to the program. Purchasing the special license plate is **voluntary**. \$22 from each plate sale goes directly into the program. **All donations are 100% tax-deductible.**

The State of Georgia annually collects at least **\$60 million** in sales tax on the sale of dog and cat food, yet spends less the **\$1 million** on animal protection.

62 of **159** Georgia counties have no animal control. Most have minimal animal control.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Can I purchase a dog and cat sterilization license plate at any time during the year?

A: Yes, plates may be purchased for an extra \$25 **at any time**, by surrendering your current plate to your tag office. They can also answer questions about purchasing the plates.

Q: May I buy the plate online?

A: Yes, by paying the extra \$25 and your renewal fee and taxes during the thirty days ending on your birthday at:
<http://motor.etax.dor.ga.gov/motor/plates/>

Q: Can my veterinarian participate?

A: Yes, all licensed and accredited veterinarians are eligible and they can inform clients that may need help about the program.

Q: May rescue groups use the funds?

A: Absolutely, we encourage them to use it to enable them to do more.

Q: How difficult is the paperwork?

A. A one-page form is faxed to confirm funds. Availability is usually approved the same day. Another one-page form confirms the surgery is done and payment is sent. The Rules are just one page.

Q: I make a good living and do not qualify for any entitlement programs. Can I still use the funds?

A: Yes, anyone in Georgia can use the funds. We hope this will encourage citizens to help friends and family and do rescue work.